

CLARENCE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

CAPITAL PROJECT 2024

Proposed updates come with no impact to taxes

On December 10, eligible community residents are invited to vote on a tax-neutral capital project. Reflecting a preventative, proactive approach to maintaining facilities, the past year has been spent developing a scope of work focused on safety, functionality, and the overall experience of students, staff, and visitors.

Starting with a careful review of our most recent Building Condition Survey (BCS), the focus has been on essential items like masonry work, roofing, window replacement, and phone upgrades. Additionally, architects have been consulted to redesign the parking lots and bus loops at both the Middle School and the High School. The improvements will improve traffic flow, reduce congestion, and create safer environments for families during drop-off and pick-up times.

While the proposed capital project involves work at each of our six school buildings, a new playground is planned for Harris Hill. Play is essential for student development, and by replacing the currently deteriorating structure, updated equipment can be provided in a way that leverages State funding.

Throughout the planning process, the \$20.6 million capital project has been designed to remain tax neutral by utilizing Building Aid from the State, funds in the voter-approved Capital Reserve, and the strategic management of debt payments.

Included with the capital project proposition is an additional \$8 million

Energy Performance Contract (EPC) designed to include LED lighting upgrades across the District and boilers in the High School. EPCs give schools the benefit of becoming more energy efficient without increasing taxes, and voter approval would secure an additional 10 percent in funding from the State.

We invite all eligible community members to take part in the vote on Tuesday, December 10 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the High School Gymnasium. More information can be found in this newsletter, on the District website, or by attending the public hearing at 6 p.m. on Monday, November 18 in the Middle School Auditorium.

Together, we can build a safer, stronger school community, and we hope to see you on December 10 for the capital project vote.

Sincerely,

James Boglioli, Esq.
Board of Education President

Michael Fuchs
Board of Education Vice President

Matthew Frahm, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



CAPITAL PROJECT VOTE

NO TAX IMPACT

DECEMBER 10, 2024

7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Clarence High School Gymnasium
9625 Main Street, Clarence, N.Y.



PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, November 18, 2024 • 6 p.m.

Clarence Middle School Auditorium
10150 Greiner Road, Clarence, N.Y.

Your **VOTE** COUNTS!

In order to vote on the Capital Project, you must be:

- A United States citizen
- At least 18 years of age
- A resident of the District for at least 30 days prior to the vote

Absentee Ballots

Eligible voters who cannot get to the polls on the day of the vote due to illness or travel outside the county in advance of election day may request an absentee ballot. Applications are available online or may be picked up at the District Office, 9625 Main Street, during normal business hours. Call 716-407-9102 for more information.

Building a Safer, Stronger School Community

Together We Make Learning A Way of Life



**CAPITAL PROJECT
BUDGET SUMMARY**

Cost Projections

Project Budget \$20,600,000

Energy Performance Contract... \$8,000,000

Financial Considerations

Building Aid Ratio..... 67.2%

Capital Reserve Utilization ... \$3,000,000

TAX NEUTRAL

CAPITAL PROJECT VOTE

**NO TAX
IMPACT**

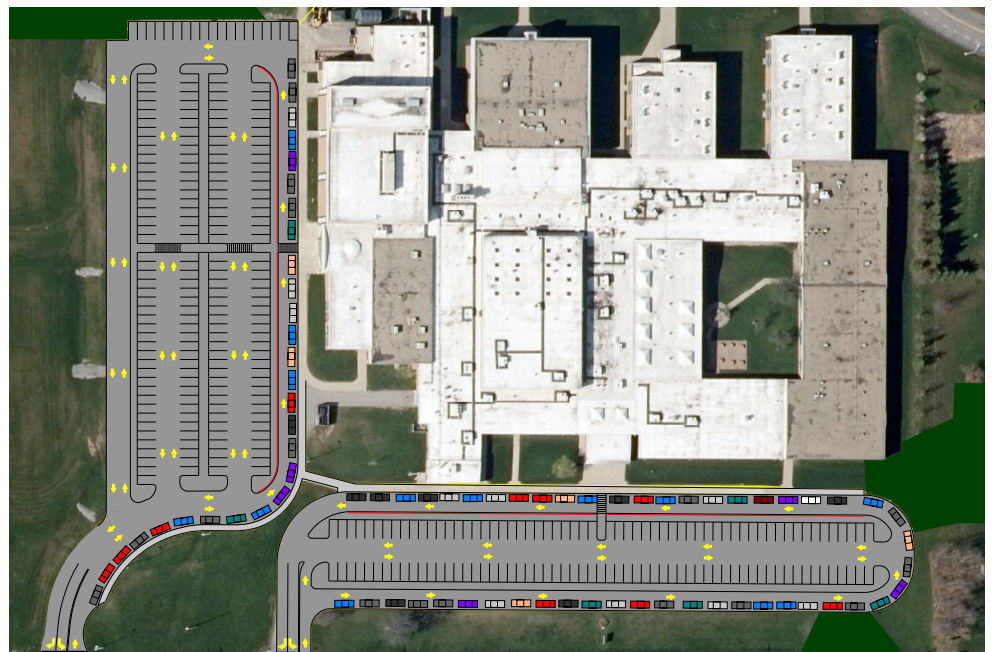
DECEMBER 10, 2024

7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Clarence High School Gymnasium
9625 Main Street, Clarence, N.Y.

Safety

Reconfigured parking lots of Clarence High School and Clarence Middle School will help create a safer and more efficient parking and pickup area for students and their families.



Importance of Play

The removal and replacement of the current play area at Harris Hill Elementary School will reinforce the value of play and social interaction for our students, and create a space that can be enjoyed by residents throughout the community.



Maintaining our Facilities

This capital project will give the District the opportunity to make needed repairs and improvements across our buildings, increasing safety for our students, staff, families and community members. The planned work as part of this capital project includes:

- Exterior Masonry and Concrete Repairs
- Technology and Phone Upgrades
- Improved Exterior Building Signage
- Window and Door Replacements
- Public Address System Improvements
- Emergency Exit Lighting Upgrades



Energy Performance Contract (EPC)

An Energy Performance Contract (EPC) is an agreement with an Energy Service Company, or ESCO, to install, maintain, or manage energy systems to improve the energy efficiency of a facility. The energy savings or revenues are used to pay for the installation of the energy efficient products or systems.

The largest portions of funding for an EPC come from Building Aid as well as rebates from NYSERDA. For lighting and light control projects, NYSERDA will also cover the majority of the cost of the initial-engineering study. The benefit of an EPC is that the decreased cost of electricity will create savings enough to cover the cost of the local share, making EPCs tax neutral.



If voters do not approve the proposition, the work outlined in the EPC could still be completed to address energy improvements. However, the District would miss out on the opportunity to receive an additional 10 percent in Building Aid for the project, decreasing the benefit to taxpayers.

The EPC for this project includes:

- LED Lighting Upgrades in all School Buildings
- Replacement of High School Boilers



NO TAX IMPACT

CAPITAL PROJECT VOTE

NO TAX IMPACT



**Tuesday
December 10, 2024**

7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

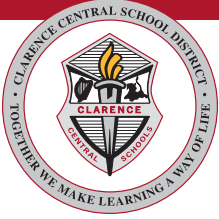


Clarence High School Gymnasium
9625 Main Street, Clarence, N.Y.

TIMELINE

January to July 2025Project Design
 Fall 2025.....NYSERDA Review
 January 2026.....Bids Received
 Spring 2026.....Construction Starts





First Class Presort
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 862
Buffalo NY

Clarence Central School District

9625 Main Street
Clarence, NY 14031
716.407.9100
www.ClarenceSchools.org

Board of Education

James Boglioli, Esq., President
Michael Fuchs, Vice President
Tricia Andrews, Trustee
Adrienne Costello-Sulik, Ph.D., Trustee
Cindy Magera, Trustee
Dennis Priore, Trustee
Dawn Snyder, Trustee
Olivia Collins, Student Representative

Superintendent

Matthew Frahm, Ed.D.
716.407.9102

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations

Patricia Grupka, Ed.D.
716.407.9013

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is this project necessary?

One of the most important responsibilities of a school district is to be a good steward of the capital investments made by the community. The planned elements of this capital project are designed to increase the long-term usage and safety of District buildings, allowing them to remain as key hubs for the Clarence community. Additionally, the Energy Performance Contract (EPC) will help the District save money over time by increasing the efficiency of buildings and facilities.

The scope of work outlined in this capital project and EPC follows a Building Condition Survey mandated by the State, which led to a planning process involving the Board of Education, school leadership, architects and construction managers. Multiple public input sessions were held to collect community feedback and recommendations.

Why is this not in the district budget?

Completing construction and renovations as part of a capital project allows the District to plan out work over time, and to receive reimbursements through New York State Education Department Building Aid. If the District were to make the repairs outside of this process, the District would be required to pay for the work without external

support, placing the burden entirely on the community's taxpayers. For the EPC, voter support will allow the District to realize an additional 10 percent in cost savings.

How do I learn more?

The community can learn more about the project and ask questions at a public hearing scheduled for 6 p.m. on November 18 in the Clarence Middle School Auditorium.



For additional resources, visit:

<https://www.clarenceschools.org/capitalproject>



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#ClarenceProud